PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 2004-155010

(43)Date of publication of application: 03.06.2004

(51)Int.Cl. B41M 5/26

B41J 2/32

B41M 5/30

B41M 5/34

B42D 15/10

(21)Application number: 2002- (71)Applicant: SONY CORP

322105

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(54) REVERSIBLE MULTICOLOR RECORDING MEDIUM AND RECORDING METHOD USING THE SAME

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a reversible multicolor thermosensitive recording medium, which has a clear contrast with no color fogging and no color degradation develops even after repeated recording and erasion.

SOLUTION: Recording layers 11-13, each of which includes one of a plurality of the reversible thermosensitive color developing compositions having developing color tones different from one another, are separatingly and laminatingly formed to the planar direction of a supporting board 1 under the condition that a plurality of the reversible thermosensitive color developing compositions each includes a photothermally converting material generating heat through the absorption of infrared radiation in wavelength ranges different from one another. The layer formed the nearest to the supporting board 1 has the longest absorption peak wavelength among those of the photothermally converting materials included in the recording layers 11-13. The shorter the absorption peak wavelength becomes, the nearer the recording layer lies to the surface layer.

LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

01.09.2005

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number]

[Date of registration]

[Number of appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

Date of extinction of right)

CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1]

It dissociates and comes [laminating] to form the recording layer which contains two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents with which coloring color tones differ in the direction of a field of a support substrate, respectively,

Two or more above-mentioned reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents contain optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which absorbs the infrared radiation of a wavelength region different, respectively, and generates heat.

the layer in which the absorption peak wavelength of optical - thermal-conversion ingredient contained in the above-mentioned recording layer is formed most near the above-mentioned support substrate -- most -- a long wave -- the reversibility multicolor record medium which is merit and is characterized by the thing which go to a surface in order of a laminating, and which it is alike, and it follows and is become short wavelength.

[Claim 2]

The reversibility multicolor record medium according to claim 1 with which at least one of the above-mentioned optical-thermal-conversion ingredients is characterized by being cyanine dye or phthalocyanine system coloring matter. [Claim 3]

The reversibility multicolor record medium according to claim 1 characterized by carrying out laminating formation of two or more above-mentioned recording layers through a thermal break in the direction of a field of the above-mentioned support substrate, respectively.

[Claim 4]

The reversibility multicolor record medium according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by forming the protective layer in the outermost surface.

[Claim 5]

In the above-mentioned recording layer, the coloring compound which has electron-donative, and ** and the subtractive color agent which have electronic receptiveness come to contain.

A reversibility multicolor record medium given in above-mentioned claim 1 characterized by being made as [change / the above-mentioned recording layer / to two conditions of coloring or a discharge / reversibly] by the reversible reaction between the coloring compound which has the above-mentioned electron-donative ones, and ** and the subtractive color agent which have the above-mentioned electronic receptiveness thru/or any 1 term of 4. [Claim 6]

It dissociates and comes [laminating] to form the recording layer which contains two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents with which coloring color tones differ in the direction of a field of a support substrate, respectively. Two or more above-mentioned reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents The absorption peak wavelength of optical - thermal-conversion ingredient which contains optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which absorbs the infrared radiation of a wavelength region different, respectively, and generates heat, and is contained in the above-mentioned recording layer the layer currently formed most near the above-mentioned support substrate -- most -- a long wave -- the reversibility multicolor record medium which is merit and goes to a surface in order of a laminating and was alike, and follows and it was made to serve as short wavelength -- using

It heat-treats and the above-mentioned whole recording layer is beforehand changed into the decolorization condition,

It exposes by irradiating the infrared radiation of the wavelength field chosen corresponding to that as which it was chosen of the above-mentioned recording

layers according to desired image information,

The record approach of the reversibility multicolor record medium characterized by recording the above-mentioned image information by making the above-mentioned recording layer generate heat, and making it coloring-ize alternatively. [Claim 7]

It dissociates and comes [laminating] to form the recording layer which contains two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents with which coloring color tones differ in the direction of a field of a support substrate, respectively. Two or more above-mentioned reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents The absorption peak wavelength of optical - thermal-conversion ingredient which contains optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which absorbs the infrared radiation of a wavelength region different, respectively, and generates heat, and is contained in the above-mentioned recording layer the layer currently formed most near the above-mentioned support substrate -- most -- a long wave -- the reversibility multicolor record medium which is merit and goes to a surface in order of a laminating and was alike, and follows and it was made to serve as short wavelength -- using

It heat-treats and the above-mentioned whole recording layer is beforehand changed into the coloring condition,

It exposes by irradiating the infrared radiation of the wavelength field chosen corresponding to that as which it was chosen of the above-mentioned recording layers according to desired image information,

The record approach of the reversibility multicolor record medium characterized by recording the above-mentioned image information by making the above-mentioned recording layer generate heat, and decolorization-izing alternatively.

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[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention]

This invention is concerned with the reversibility multicolor record medium for recording an image or data, and the record approach using this.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art]

In recent years, the need for a liac ITABURU record technique is strongly recognized from the earth environment-standpoint. Paperless-ization at office or a home is progressing by making the advance of the network technique of a computer, communication technology, OA equipment, an archive medium, storage media, etc. into a background.

[0003]

The record medium in which informational record and informational elimination are possible, and the so-called reversibility thermal recording medium are reversibly put in practical use in the application of visualization of the balance, other recording information, etc., and legible-izing with the spread of various prepaid cards, a point card, a credit card, IC cards, etc. by the heat which is one of the display media replaced with printed matter, and it is further put in practical use also in a copying machine and a printer application.

[0004]

The record approach using an above reversibility thermal recording medium and this above is indicated by the following patent reference 1 - 4 grades, for example, these be the record media which distributed an organic low-molecular matter during the so-called low-molecular distribution type , i.e., a resin base material , and since it be what change dispersion of light by the heat history and change a recording layer to nebula or a transparence condition and have the fault that the contrast of the image formation section and an image unformed part be inadequate , only the medium which raised contrast be put in practical use by prepare a reflecting layer in the bottom of a recording layer .

[0005]

On the other hand, the record medium which has the recording layer by which the leuco color which is an electron-donating coloring compound, and ** and a subtractive color agent were distributed during the leuco color type, i.e., a resin base material, and the record approach using this are indicated by the following patent reference 5-9. In these, the amphoteric compound which has the acidic group which makes a leuco color color, and the basic group which decolorizes the colored leuco color as ** and a subtractive color agent, or the phenolic compound with long-chain alkyl is used. In order that this record medium and the record approach may use coloring of the leuco color itself, as compared with a low-molecular distribution type, contrast and visibility are good and are being put in practical use widely in recent years.

[0006]

In the conventional technique currently indicated with each above-mentioned patent reference, only two kinds of colors of the color of the ingredient of a base material, i.e., the color of natural complexion, and the color discolored with heat can be expressed. However, in recent years, the demand to carrying out color discernment and recording a display and the various data of a multi-colored picture image for visibility or the improvement in fashionability, is increasing very much

On the other hand, the record approach which applies the above-mentioned conventional approach and displays a multi-colored picture image is proposed variously.

[0007]

In the following patent reference 10-12, it is visualizing or concealing the layer distinguished by different color by multiple color with and a particle by the low-molecular distribution type recording layer, and the record medium which performs a multicolor display, and the record approach using this are indicated. However, in the record medium of such a configuration, a recording layer could not conceal a lower layer color completely, but the color of a base material was

transparent, and high contrast was not acquired. [0008]

In the following patent reference 13 and 14, although the indication about the reversibility sensible-heat multicolor record medium using a leuco color is made, since it is what has the repeat unit from which a hue differs in a field, the surface ratio on which each hue is actually recorded is small. Consequently, the recorded image had the problem that only a thin image could be obtained very darkly. [0009]

In the following patent reference 15-23, the indication about the reversibility sensible-heat multicolor record medium of a configuration of having been formed in the condition of having separated the recording layer using the leuco color from which coloring temperature, decolorization temperature, a cooling rate, etc. differ, and having become independent is made.

However, good contrast is not acquired the top where the temperature control by record heat sources, such as a thermal head, is difficult, but it has the problem that the fogging of a color is unavoidable. Furthermore, it is very difficult to control multiple color-ization of three or more colors only by the difference between whenever [by a thermal head etc. / stoving temperature], and/or, the cooling rate after heating.

[0010]

In the reversibility sensible-heat multicolor record medium of a configuration of having, formed the recording layer using a leuco color in the condition of having dissociated and become independent, in the following patent reference 24 on the other hand, the indication about the record approach which heats only the recording layer of arbitration and is made to color by optical-thermal conversion by laser light is made. According to this approach, according to the effectiveness of the wavelength selection nature of optical-thermal-conversion layer, only the recording layer of arbitration can be made to color and the problem of the fogging of a color which was a problem in the conventional reversibility multicolor record medium may be able to be solved.

[0011]

However, by each above-mentioned patent reference, the examination about the order of a laminating of laser light absorption wavelength and optical-thermal-conversion layer was not made, about making only a desired color color completely, it is inadequate and the problem of a color fogging was not yet solved enough.

[0012]

[Patent reference 1]

JP.54-119377,A

[Patent reference 2]

JP,55-154198,A

[Patent reference 3]

JP.63-39377,A

[Patent reference 4]

JP.63-41186.A

[Patent reference 5]

JP,2-188293,A

[Patent reference 6]

JP.2-188294.A

[Patent reference 7]

JP.5-124360.A

[Patent reference 8]

JP.7-108761.A

[Patent reference 9]

JP,7-188294,A

[Patent reference 10]

JP,5-62189,A

[Patent reference 11]

JP.8-80682.A

[Patent reference 12]

JP.2000-198275,A

[Patent reference 13]

JP,8-58245,A

[Patent reference 14]

JP.2000-25338.A

[Patent reference 15]

JP,6-305247,A

[Patent reference 16]

JP,6-328844,A

[Patent reference 17]

JP.6-79970,A

[Patent reference 18]

JP,8-164669,A

[Patent reference 19]

JP,8-300825,A

[Patent reference 20]

JP,9-52445,A

[Patent reference 21]

JP,11-138997,A

[Patent reference 22]

JP,2001-162941,A

[Patent reference 23]

JP.2002-59654.A

[Patent reference 24]

JP,2001-1645,A

[0013]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention]

Although the request to multicolor thermal recording is large as mentioned above, and research is done briskly, the present condition is that the record medium which has the recording characteristic which can be satisfied practical, or the recording method is not yet found out.

[0014]

Then, in this invention, it has the image stability which there is no color fogging, and has clear color developing and reducing and contrast in view of the problem of such a conventional technique, and is satisfactory practically, and the color tone of arbitration is repeated and the record approach using the reversibility multicolor thermal recording medium in which coloring and elimination are possible is offered.

[0015]

[Means for Solving the Problem]

The reversibility multicolor record medium of this invention two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents with which coloring color tones differ in the direction of a field of a support substrate The recording layer contained, respectively is dissociated and laminating formed. Two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents the layer in which the absorption peak wavelength of optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which contains optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which absorbs the infrared radiation of a wavelength region different, respectively, and generates heat, and is contained in a recording layer is formed most near the support substrate ----most --- a long wave --- it is merit and considers as the thing which goes to a surface in order of a laminating and which is alike, follows and serves as short wavelength.

[0016]

The record approach of the reversibility multicolor record medium of this invention two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents with which coloring color tones differ in the direction of a field of a support substrate The recording layer contained, respectively is dissociated and laminating formed. Two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents The absorption peak wavelength of optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which contains optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which absorbs

the infrared radiation of a wavelength region different, respectively, and generates heat, and is contained in a recording layer. The reversibility multicolor record medium which the layer currently formed most near the support substrate is long wavelength most, and serves as short wavelength as it goes to a surface in order of a laminating is used. It heat-treats and the whole recording layer is beforehand changed into the decolorization condition. First, next Image information shall be recorded by exposing by irradiating the infrared radiation of the wavelength field chosen corresponding to that as which it was chosen of the recording layers according to desired image information, making a recording layer generate heat, and making it coloring-ize alternatively.

Moreover, the record approach of the reversibility multicolor record medium of this invention The recording layer which contains two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents with which coloring color tones differ in the direction of a field of a support substrate, respectively is dissociated and laminating formed. Two or more reversibility sensible-heat color-enhancing constituents The absorption peak wavelength of optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which contains optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which absorbs the infrared radiation of a wavelength region different, respectively, and generates heat, and is contained in a recording layer The reversibility multicolor record medium which the layer currently formed most near the support substrate is long wavelength most, and serves as short wavelength as it goes to a surface in order of a laminating is used. First, heat-treat and the above-mentioned whole recording layer is beforehand changed into the coloring condition. Next, image information shall be recorded by exposing by irradiating the infrared radiation of the wavelength field chosen corresponding to that as which it was chosen of the recording layers according to desired image information, making a recording layer generate heat, and decolorization-izing alternatively. [0018]

According to this invention, by irradiating the infrared radiation which made

wavelength selection, the recording layer of arbitration was made to generate heat alternatively, and conversion with a clear and reversible coloring condition and a decolorization condition could be performed, and when informational record and informational elimination were performed repeatedly, it has avoided a color fogging and fading.

[0019]

[Embodiment of the Invention]

Although the gestalt of concrete operation of this invention is hereafter explained with reference to a drawing, the reversibility multicolor record medium and its record approach of this invention are not limited to the following examples. [0020]

The outline sectional view of the reversibility multicolor record medium of this invention is shown in drawing 1.

The laminating of the 1st recording layer 11, the 2nd recording layer 12, and the 3rd recording layer 13 is carried out through thermal breaks 14 and 15 on the support substrate 1, respectively, and this reversibility multicolor record medium 10 has the configuration in which the protective layer 16 was formed at the maximum upper layer.

[0021]

The support substrate 1 is excellent in thermal resistance, and if it is an ingredient with the high dimensional stability of the direction of a flat surface, a well-known ingredient can be conventionally used for it suitably. For example, it can choose from ingredients, such as metallic materials, such as a glass ingredient besides polymeric materials, such as polyester and rigid polyvinyl chloride, and stainless steel, or paper, suitably. However, except transparency applications, such as an over head projector, as for the support substrate 1, it is desirable to form with the ingredient with a high reflection factor to the light which has white or a metal color in order to aim at improvement in the visibility at the time of recording information to the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 finally obtained.

[0022]

Optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which absorbs the infrared radiation of wavelength which shall form using the stable ingredient which can control a recordable decolorization condition and a coloring condition, and is different, respectively, and generates heat shall contain the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 repeatedly.

[0023]

The 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 are formed by applying the coating which distributed for example, the leuco color, and ** and a subtractive color agent in the resin base material.

The 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 are formed using a predetermined leuco color according to the color of the request which each colors. For example, in the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13, if three primary colors are colored, formation of a full color image will be attained as this reversibility multicolor record-medium 10 whole.

[0024]

As a leuco color, the existing color for thermal papers etc. is applicable. The organic acid (it indicates to JP,5-124360,A, JP,7-108761,A, JP,7-188294,A, JP,2001-105733,A, JP,2001-113829,A, etc.) which has the long-chain alkyl group conventionally used for these as a **** subtractive color agent is applicable. [0025]

The 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 shall contain the infrared absorption coloring matter which has absorption in a wavelength region [as mentioned above] different, respectively, and set it to the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 of drawing1]. Optical - thermal-conversion ingredient with which the 2nd recording layer 12 absorbs the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 2, the 3rd recording layer 13 absorbs the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 3, respectively, and the 1st recording layer 11 generates heat the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 1 shall be contained.

[0026]

Moreover, phthalocyanine dye and cyanine dye which are generally used for a visible wavelength region as near infrared ray absorption coloring matter which does not almost have absorption as an optical - thermal-conversion ingredient contained in the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13, a metal complex color, a gene MONIUMU system color, an aminium system color, an iminium system color, etc. are applicable. Furthermore, in order to make only optical-thermal-conversion ingredient of arbitration generate heat, the absorption band of optical-thermal-conversion ingredient is narrow, and it is desirable to choose the combination of the ingredient which do not overlap mutually. If the 1st recording layer 11 currently formed most near the support substrate 1 is removed from this, an absorption spectrum can prevent a color fogging in a recording layer by making steep cyanine dye or phthalocyanine system coloring matter contain. [0027]

As resin for the 3rd the 1st a recording layer 11 - 13 formation, a polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, a vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer, ethyl cellulose, polystyrene, a styrene system copolymer, phenoxy resin, polyester, aromatic polyester, polyurethane, a polycarbonate, polyacrylic ester, polymethacrylic acid ester, an acrylic-acid system copolymer, a maleic-acid system polymer, polyvinyl alcohol, denaturation polyvinyl alcohol, hydroxyethyl cellulose, a carboxymethyl cellulose, starch, etc. are mentioned, for example. Various additives, such as an ultraviolet ray absorbent, may be used together if needed to these resin.

[0028]

The 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 can form the coating which was made to dissolve or distribute the above-mentioned leuco color, ** and a subtractive color agent, optical - thermal-conversion ingredient, and various additives in the above-mentioned resin by using a solvent, and was produced by applying to a predetermined field, respectively.

As for the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13, it is desirable to form in about 1-20 micrometers of thickness, and its about further 1.5-15 micrometers are desirable.

When sufficient coloring concentration will not be obtained if the thickness of a recording layer is too thin, but conversely, and the heat capacity of a recording layer becomes large, it is for color enhancement and decolorization nature to deteriorate. [too]

[0029]

100311

It is desirable between the 1st recording layer 11 and the 2nd recording layer 12 to form the thermal breaks 14 and 15 of translucency between the 2nd recording layer 12 and the 3rd recording layer 13, respectively. It is avoided that the heat of the recording layer which adjoins by this conducts, and the effectiveness of preventing the so-called generating of a color fogging is acquired.

Thermal breaks 14 and 15 can be conventionally formed using the polymer of well-known translucency. For example, a polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, a vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer, ethyl cellulose, polystyrene, a styrene system copolymer, phenoxy resin, polyester, aromatic polyester, polyurethane, a polycarbonate, polyacrylic ester, polymethacrylic acid ester, an acrylic-acid system copolymer, a maleic-acid system polymer, polyvinyl alcohol, denaturation polyvinyl alcohol, hydroxyethyl cellulose, a carboxymethyl cellulose, starch, etc. are mentioned. To these polymers, various additives, such as an ultraviolet ray absorbent, may be used together if needed.

Moreover, as thermal breaks 14 and 15, the inorganic film of translucency is also applicable. For example, when a silica, an alumina, a titania, porous carbon, or these porous complex etc. are applied, reduction-ization of thermal conductivity is attained and it is desirable. These can be formed with the sol-gel method which can carry out film formation from a solution layer.

As for thermal breaks 14 and 15, it is desirable to form in about 3-100 micrometers of thickness, and its about further 5-50 micrometers are desirable. When sufficient adiabatic efficiency will not be acquired if the thickness of a

thermal break is too thin, but thickness is too thick, it is for thermal conductivity to deteriorate, in case homogeneity heating of the whole record medium mentioned later is carried out, or for translucency to fall.

[0033]

A protective layer 16 can be conventionally formed using well-known ultraviolet-rays hardenability resin and thermosetting resin, and it is [thickness] desirable to be referred to as 0.1-20 micrometers and about further 0.5-5 micrometers. When too thick [if the thickness of a protective layer 16 is too thin, sufficient protective effect will not be acquired, but], in case homogeneity heating of the whole record medium is carried out, it is for un-arranging [of being hard coming to carry out heat transfer] to arise.

[0034]

Next, the principle which performs multicolor record is explained using the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 shown in <u>drawing 1</u>.

[0035]

First, the 1st principle of multicolor record is explained.

The reversibility multicolor record medium 10 shown in <u>drawing 1</u> is completely heated at the temperature which is extent which each recording layer decolorizes, for example, the temperature which is about 120 degrees C, and the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 are beforehand changed into the decolorization condition. Namely, in this condition, it shall be in the condition that the color of the support substrate 1 is exposed.

[0036]

Next, the infrared radiation which chose wavelength and an output as arbitration at the part of the arbitration of the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 is irradiated with semiconductor laser etc.

For example, when making the 1st recording layer 11 color, the 1st recording layer 11 irradiates the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 1 with the energy of extent which reaches coloring temperature, make optical - thermal-conversion ingredient generate heat, the coloring reaction between an electron-donating

coloring compound, and ********** and a subtractive color agent is made to cause, and an exposure part is made to color.

The energy of extent which reaches coloring temperature in the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda2 and lambda3, respectively can be irradiated, each optical - thermal-conversion ingredient can be made to be able to generate heat, and an exposure part can be made similarly to color also about the 2nd recording layer 12 and 3rd recording layer 13. By doing in this way, the part of the arbitration of the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 can be made to color, and it becomes recordable [full color image formation or various information].

[0038]

Furthermore, recording information and an image can be eliminated and recording again is possible the temperature which is extent to which all recording layers decolorize a part for coloring-izing or the whole reversibility multicolor record medium 10 made to decolorization-ize as mentioned above, for example, by heating uniformly at 120 degrees C, by repeating the actuation mentioned above.

[0039]

Next, the 2nd principle of multicolor record is explained.

It heats completely, and ranks second and cools at the temperature which is extent to which each recording layer colors the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 shown in <u>drawing 1</u>, for example, the elevated temperature which is about 200 degrees C, and the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 are altogether

changed into the coloring condition beforehand.

[0040]

Next, the infrared radiation which chose wavelength and an output as arbitration at the part of the arbitration of the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 is irradiated with semiconductor laser etc.

For example, in decolorizing the 1st recording layer 11, irradiate with the energy which is extent to which the 1st recording layer 11 decolorizes the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 1, optical - thermal-conversion ingredient is made to generate heat, and it makes a recording layer 11 into a decolorization condition. Similarly, also about the 2nd recording layer 12 and 3rd recording layer 13, the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda2 and lambda3 can be irradiated with the energy of extent which reaches decolorization temperature, respectively, each optical - thermal-conversion ingredient can be made to be able to generate heat, and an exposure part can be decolorized. By doing in this way, the part of the arbitration of the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 can be decolorized, and it becomes recordable [full color image formation or various information]. [0041]

Moreover, it can be made to coloring-ize in the recording layer decolorized as mentioned above by the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 irradiating the infrared radiation of the wavelength of arbitration further with the energy of extent which reaches coloring temperature, making each optical-thermal-conversion ingredient generate heat, and making the coloring reaction between an electron-donative coloring compound, and electron-donative electron-donative ** and subtractive color agent cause.

[0042]

Furthermore, recording information and an image can be eliminated and it becomes recordable the temperature which is extent which all recording layers color a part for coloring-izing or the whole reversibility multicolor record medium 10 made to decolorization-ize as mentioned above, for example, by heating uniformly and subsequently cooling at 200 degrees C, again by repeating the

above-mentioned actuation and performing it. [0043]

Whether which approach is applied among the record approaches mentioned above to the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 of this invention chooses suitably according to the engine performance of the property of a recording layer, and the record light source. For example, a recording layer is heated at an elevated temperature and it considers as the coloring condition, and you may form as a layer of the so-called positive type decolorized at the temperature not more than it, it considers as the decolorization condition at the elevated temperature, and you may form as a layer of the so-called negative mold colored at the temperature not more than it (for example, JP,8-197853,A).

Next, the order of a laminating of the recording layer which constitutes the reversible multicolor record medium 10 of this invention is explained.

The absorption spectrum of the cyanine dye of an example of optical-thermal-conversion ingredient contained, respectively is shown in the 1st recording layer 11 - the 3rd recording layer 13 at drawing 2.

Although the long wavelength side of an absorption spectrum of an absorption peak is very sharp as shown in drawing, the short wavelength side is comparatively gently-sloping.

[0045]

As shown in drawing.2, the wavelength of the infrared radiation to irradiate is lambda3lambda2lambda1. As the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 of this invention is shown in drawing.1, the laminating of the 1st recording layer 11 whose absorption peak wavelength is lambda1, lambda2, and lambda3, respectively - the 3rd recording layer 13 is carried out one by one on the support substrate 1. That is, the laminating shall be carried out to order from the recording layer which contains optical-thermal-conversion ingredient (infrared absorption agent) with long absorption peak wavelength from the support substrate 1 side.

[0046]

When the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 3 is irradiated, it can be absorbed only by the 3rd recording layer 13, and can generate heat, and only this 3rd recording layer 13 can be made to color in the reversibility multicolor record medium of such a configuration. When the infrared radiation of the long wave length lambda 2 is irradiated rather than lambda 3, it penetrates without being absorbed in the 3rd recording layer 13, it can be absorbed only by the 2nd recording layer 12, and can generate heat, and only this 2nd recording layer 12 can be made similarly to color.

Moreover, when the infrared radiation of the long wave length lambda 1 is irradiated rather than lambda2 and lambda3, it penetrates without being absorbed in the 3rd recording layer 13 and 2nd recording layer 12, and it can be absorbed only by the 1st recording layer 11, and can generate heat, and only this 1st recording layer 11 can be made to color.

[0047]

As shown in <u>drawing 3</u>, absorption peak wavelength on the other hand, the 1st recording layer 21 which is lambda1, lambda2, and lambda3 (lambda3<lambda2<lambda1), respectively - the 3rd recording layer 23 The record medium 20 of a configuration of that the laminating is carried out to order from the recording layer containing optical-thermal-conversion ingredient (infrared absorption agent) with short absorption peak wavelength was produced from the support substrate 2 side like the 3rd recording layer 23, the 2nd recording layer 22, and the 1st recording layer 21.

[0048]

When the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 1 is irradiated to this record medium 20, it can be absorbed only by the 1st recording layer 21, and can generate heat, and only the 1st recording layer 21 can be made to color. However, before the absorption spectrum of cyanine dye and phthalocyanine system coloring matter reaches the 2nd recording layer 22, it is absorbed by the 1st upper recording layer 21, and will make the 1st recording layer 21 color by

the short wavelength side of an absorption peak, since it is comparatively gentlysloping as shown in <u>drawing 2</u> when the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 2 is irradiated.

Before reaching the 3rd recording layer 23, it is absorbed by the 1st upper recording layer 21 and 2nd upper recording layer 22, and these recording layers will be made similarly, to color, when the infrared radiation of wavelength lambda 3 is irradiated.

Thus, if the laminating of the recording layer containing optical-thermalconversion ingredient (infrared absorption agent) with long absorption peak wavelength is carried out to the upper layer of the recording layer containing optical-thermal-conversion ingredient (infrared absorption agent) with short absorption peak wavelength, it cannot make only a desired recording layer color, but a color fogging will occur.

[0049]

As mentioned above, in using near-infrared absorption coloring matter as an optical - thermal-conversion ingredient, it becomes possible to prevent the fogging of a coloring color tone by carrying out a laminating to the configuration of the absorption spectrum of coloring matter one by one in consideration of the order of a laminating of the recording layer containing optical-thermal-conversion ingredient from the recording layer in which absorption peak wavelength contains optical long-thermal-conversion ingredient (infrared absorption agent) from a support substrate side.

[0050]

Moreover, since it mentioned above, if the recording layer formed most near the support substrate is removed, it is desirable that the long wavelength side of an absorption peak uses sharp cyanine due or phthalocyanine system coloring matter in an absorption spectrum.

[0051]

[Example]

Next, although a concrete example and the example of a comparison are given

and explained about this invention, the reversibility multicolor record medium and its record approach of this invention are not limited to the example shown below. [0052]

[Example 1]

In this example, as shown in <u>drawing 1</u>, the record medium with which the laminating of the 1st recording layer 11, a thermal break 14, the 2nd recording layer 12, a thermal break 15, the 3rd recording layer 13, and the protective layer 16 was carried out one by one on the support substrate 1 and which has the so-called reversibility recording layer of three layers was produced.

As a support substrate 1, the polyethylene terephthalate substrate of white with a thickness of 1mm was prepared. Next, as the 1st recording layer 11, the following constituent was applied with the wire bar on the support substrate 1, stoving processing was performed for 5 minutes at 110 degrees C, and the recording layer which cyanogen can be made to color was formed in 6 micrometers of thickness.

The absorbance in light with a wavelength [of the 1st recording layer 11] of 980nm was 1.0.

[0054]

(Constituent)

Leuco color (the product made from the Yamada chemical industry: H-3035(following [-ized 1]):1 weight section)

[0055]

[Formula 1]

| [0056] |
|---|
| **** subtractive-color agent (matter shown in [-ized [following] 2]): Four weight |
| sections |
| [0057] |
| [Formula 2] |
| × - |
| |
| |
| |
| [0058] |

Vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer: Ten weight sections (90% of vinyl chlorides, 10% of vinyl acetate, average molecular weight 115000 (M. W.))

Cyanine system infrared-absorption coloring matter: The 0.30 weight sections

(H. Absorption wavelength peak 980nm in the inside of the product made from W.SANDS, solvent deasphalting8956, and a recording layer) Tetrahydrofuran (THF): The 140 weight sections [0059] On the 1st recording layer 11 formed as mentioned above, the polyvinyl alcohol water solution was applied, it dried, and the thermal break 14 of 20 micrometers of thickness was formed. 100601 On the thermal break 14, the following constituent was applied with the wire bar as the 2nd recording layer 12, stoving processing was performed for 5 minutes at 110 degrees C, and the layer which magenta can be made to color was formed in 6 micrometers of thickness. The absorbance in light with a wavelength [of the 2nd recording layer 12] of 860nm was 1.0. [0061] (Constituent) Leuco color (the Hodogaya chemistry company make: Red DCF(following [-ized 31):2 weight section) 100621 [Formula 3]

×

[0063]
**** subtractive-color agent (matter shown in [-ized [following] 4]): Four weight sections
[0064]
[Formula 4]

[0065]

Vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer: Ten weight sections (90% of vinyl chlorides, 10% of vinyl acetate, M.W.115000)

Cyanine system infrared-absorption coloring matter: The 0.12 weight sections (Absorption wavelength peak 860nm in the inside of the Hayashibara Biochemical Laboratories make, NK-5706, and a recording layer)

Tetrahydrofuran (THF): The 140 weight sections

[0066]

On the 2nd recording layer 12 formed as mentioned above, the polyvinyl alcohol water solution was applied, it dried, and the thermal break 15 of 20 micrometers of thickness was formed.

[0067]

On the above-mentioned thermal break 15, the following constituent was applied with the wire bar as the 3rd recording layer 13, stoving processing was performed for 5 minutes at 110 degrees C, and the layer which yellow can be made to color was formed in 6 micrometers of thickness.

The absorbance in light with a wavelength [of the 3rd recording layer 13] of 795nm was 1.0.

[0068]

(Constituent)

Leuco color (fluoran compound: lambdamax=490nm): Two weight sections

**** subtractive-color agent (matter shown in [-ized [following] 5]): Four weight sections

100691

[Formula 5]

| ■" |
|----|
| |
| |
| |

[0070]

Vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer: Ten weight sections

(90% of vinyl chlorides, 10% of vinyl acetate, M.W.115000)

Cyanine system infrared-absorption coloring matter: The 0.08 weight sections (Absorption wavelength peak 795nm in the inside of the Nippon Kayaku make, CY-10, and a recording layer)

Tetrahydrofuran (THF): The 140 weight sections

[0071]

On the 3rd recording layer 13 of the above, ultraviolet-rays hardenability resin was used, the protective layer 16 of about 2 micrometers of thickness was formed, and the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 made into the purpose was produced.

[0072]

The reversibility multicolor record medium 10 produced as mentioned above was uniformly heated using the ceramic bar heated at 120 degrees C, and what changed the 1st - the 3rd recording layer 11-13 into the decolorization condition was made into the sample.

[0073]

[Example 2]

Using the ceramic bar which heated the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 produced in the above-mentioned example 1 at 180 degrees C, it heated, and cooled continuously, and the thing which all made coloring-ize beforehand the 1st recording layer 11, the 2nd recording layer 12, and the 3rd recording layer 13 was made into the sample.

[0074]

[The example 1 of a comparison]

In this example, in the reversibility multicolor record medium 10 of an example 1, the order of a laminating of the recording layer containing near infrared ray absorption coloring matter was changed, and the record medium was produced. The outline sectional view of the reversibility multicolor record medium in this example of a comparison is shown in drawing 3.

As a support substrate 2, the polyethylene terephthalate substrate of white with a thickness of 1mm was prepared.

Next, on the support substrate 2, the following constituent was applied with the wire bar as the 3rd recording layer 23, stoving processing was performed for 5 minutes at 110 degrees C, and the recording layer which cyanogen can be made to color was formed in 6 micrometers of thickness.

The absorbance in light with a wavelength [of the 3rd recording layer 23] of 795nm was 1.0.

[0075]

(Constituent)

Leuco color (the product made from the Yamada chemical industry: H-3035(following I-ized 61):1 weight section)

[0076]

[Formula 6]

| × - |
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| |
| [0077] |
| **** subtractive-color agent (matter shown in [-ized [following] 7]): Four weight |
| sections |
| [0078] |
| [Formula 7] |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |

[0079]

Vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer: Ten weight sections (90% of vinyl chlorides, 10% of vinyl acetate, average molecular weight 115000 (M. W.))

Cyanine system infrared-absorption coloring matter: The 0.08 weight sections

| (Absorption wavelength peak 795nm in the inside of the Nippon Kayaku make, |
|--|
| CY-10, and a recording layer) |
| Tetrahydrofuran (THF): The 140 weight sections |
| [0080] |
| On the 3rd recording layer 23 formed as mentioned above, the polyvinyl alcohol |
| |
| water solution was applied, it dried, and the thermal break 24 of 20 micrometers |
| of thickness was formed. |
| [0081] |
| On the above-mentioned thermal break 24, the following constituent was applied |
| with the wire bar as the 2nd recording layer 22, stoving processing was |
| performed for 5 minutes at 110 degrees C, and the layer which magenta can be |
| made to color was formed in 6 micrometers of thickness. |
| The absorbance in the light with a wavelength of 860nm of the 2nd recording |
| layer 22 was 1.0. |
| [0082] |
| (Constituent) |
| Leuco color (the Hodogaya chemistry company make: Red DCF(following [-ized |
| 8j):2 weight section) |
| [0083] |
| [Formula 8] |
| × |
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**** subtractive-color agent (matter shown in [-ized [following] 9]): Four weight sections [0085]
[Formula 9]

[0086]

Vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer: Ten weight sections (90% of vinyl chlorides, 10% of vinyl acetate, M.W.115000)

Cyanine system infrared-absorption coloring matter: The 0.12 weight sections (Absorption wavelength peak 860nm in the inside of the Hayashibara Biochemical Laboratories make, NK-5706, and a recording layer)

Tetrahvdrofuran (THF): The 140 weight sections

100871

On the 2nd recording layer 22 formed as mentioned above, the polyvinyl alcohol water solution was applied, it dried, and the thermal break 25 of 20 micrometers of thickness was formed.

188001

On the thermal break 25, the following constituent was applied with the wire bar as the 1st recording layer 21, stoving processing was performed for 5 minutes at 110 degrees C, and the layer which yellow can be made to color was formed in 6 micrometers of thickness.

The absorbance in the light with a wavelength of 980nm of the 1st recording layer 21 was 1.0.

[0089]

(Constituent)

| Leuco color (fluoran compound: lambdamax=490nm); Two weight sections | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| **** subtractive-color agent (matter shown in [-ized [following] 10]): Four weight | | | | | |
| sections | | | | | |
| [0090] | | | | | |
| [Formula 10] | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

[0091]

Vinyl chloride vinyl acetate copolymer: Ten weight sections (90% of vinyl chlorides, 10% of vinyl acetate, M.W.115000)

Cyanine system infrared-absorption coloring matter: The 0.30 weight sections (H. Absorption wavelength peak 980nm in the inside of the product made from W.SANDS, solvent deasphalting8956, and a recording layer)

Tetrahydrofuran (THF): The 140 weight sections

[0092]

On the 1st recording layer 21, ultraviolet-rays hardenability resin was used, the protective layer 26 of about 2 micrometers of thickness was formed, and the reversibility multicolor record medium 20 made into the purpose was produced. [0093]

The reversibility multicolor record medium produced as mentioned above was uniformly heated using the ceramic bar heated at 120 degrees C, and what changed the 1st recording layer 21, the 2nd recording layer 22, and the 3rd recording layer 23 into the decolorization condition was made into the sample. [0094]

[The example 2 of a comparison]

Using the ceramic bar which heated the reversibility multicolor record medium 20

produced in the example 1 of a comparison mentioned above at 180 degrees C, it heated, and cooled continuously, and the thing which all made coloring-ize beforehand the 1st recording layer 21, the 2nd recording layer 22, and the 3rd recording layer 23 was made into the sample.

[0095]

About the sample of each record medium produced as mentioned above, the solid image was recorded by the record approach 1 and the record approach 2 which are shown below, and color tone measurement evaluation and characterization of repeat record elimination were performed.

[0096]

(The record approach 1)

The line was recorded for wavelength the output of 300mW of 795nm, wavelength the output of 500mW of 860nm, wavelength the output of 550mW of 980nm, and spot configuration 20micrometerx200micrometer semiconductor laser light on the location of the arbitration of the reversibility multicolor record-medium sample produced in the example 1 and the example 1 of a comparison which were mentioned above by respectively independent or irradiating, making coincidence scan at the rate of 4000 mm/sec. This was repeated at intervals of 20 micrometers, and the solid image was recorded as a result.

(The record approach 2)

The line was recorded for wavelength the output of 300mW of 795nm, wavelength the output of 500mW of 860nm, wavelength the output of 550mW of 980nm, and spot configuration 50micrometerx200micrometer semiconductor laser light on the location of the arbitration of the reversibility multicolor record-medium sample produced in the example 2 mentioned above and the example 2 of a comparison by respectively independent or irradiating, making coincidence scan at the rate of 4000 mm/sec. This was repeated at intervals of 30 micrometers, and the solid image was recorded as a result.

(Color tone measurement)

About the above (the record approach 1) and (the record approach 2) the recorded sample, the reflection factor was measured with the recording spectrophotometer equipped with an integrating sphere, and it asked for the chromaticity to D light source of the recorded image.

[0099]

(Repeat characterization)

it came out to the location of the arbitration of a reversibility multicolor recordmedium sample by the above (the record approach 1), the solid image was recorded, and the trial eliminated with a 120-degree C ceramic bar was repeatedly performed to the same location of each record medium 100 times. The approach of showing the color tone of the location which recorded above (color tone measurement) estimated.

[0100]

[Evaluation result 1]

About the reversibility multicolor record medium produced in the abovementioned example 1 and the example 1 of a comparison, it writes in by the above (the record approach 1), and the result of having evaluated the color tone of the recorded image is shown in the following table 1.

In addition, the laser light irradiated in Table 1 was expressed with O, and the laser light which was not irradiated was expressed with ${\bf x}$.

[0101]

[Table 1]

| | | |
|---|------|------|
| x | | |
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[0102]

As shown in the above-mentioned table 1, when the laser light of three kinds of wavelength was independently irradiated in the reversibility multicolor record medium of an example 1, only the predetermined recording layer which has an absorption peak in each could be made to color, and a clear color tone and a clear image were obtained. Moreover, when it irradiated combining two or more kinds in the laser light of three kinds of wavelength, the predetermined recording layer which has an absorption peak in each laser light could be made to color, red, Green, blue, and combination color like black were obtained, and the clear full color display was able to be performed.

[0103]

On the other hand, although the 1st recording layer 21 shown in drawing 3 was made to color and the display of yellow was made in the reversibility multicolor record medium of the example 1 of a comparison when laser light with a wavelength of 980nm was irradiated Since the absorption spectrum was gently-sloping in the short wavelength side of an absorption peak as shown in drawing 2 when laser light with a wavelength of 860nm was irradiated, not only the 2nd recording layer 22 but the 1st recording layer 21 was made to color, and the color

tone became red

Moreover, when laser light with a wavelength of 800nm was irradiated, not only the 3rd recording layer 23 but the 1st recording layer 21 and 2nd recording layer 22 were made to color similarly, and the color tone became gray.

That is, in the reversibility multicolor record medium of the example 1 of a comparison, recording layers 22 and 23 other than the maximum upper recording layer, i.e., the 2nd and 3rd recording layers in <u>drawing 3</u>, could not be made to color independently, but color specification became not clear.

[0104]

[Evaluation result 2]

About the record medium of the above-mentioned example 2 and the example 2 of a comparison, it writes in by the above (the record approach 2), and the result of having evaluated the color tone of the recorded image is shown in the following table 2.

In addition, the laser light irradiated in Table 2 was expressed with O, and the laser light which was not irradiated was expressed with \boldsymbol{x} .

[0105]

[Table 2]

| × | | | |
|-----|--|--|--|
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| l . | | | |

As shown in the above-mentioned table 2, it sets to the reversibility multicolor record medium of an example 2. When the laser light of three kinds of wavelength is irradiated independently [when only the predetermined recording layer which has an absorption peak in each can be decolorized, and desired combination color can be displayed clearly and it irradiates combining two or more kinds in the laser light of three kinds of wavelength] The predetermined recording layer which has an absorption peak in each laser light could be decolorized, desired color specification was performed, and the full color display clear as a whole was able to be performed.

[0107]

On the other hand, although the 1st recording layer 21 shown in drawing 3 was decolorized and the blue display was made in the reversibility multicolor record medium of the example 2 of a comparison when laser light with a wavelength of 980nm was irradiated Since the absorption spectrum was gently-sloping in the short wavelength side of an absorption peak as shown in drawing 2 when laser light with a wavelength of 860nm was irradiated, not only the 2nd recording layer 22 but the 1st recording layer 21 was decolorized, and the color tone became cyanogen.

Moreover, when laser light with a wavelength of 800nm was irradiated, similarly, not only the 3rd recording layer 23 but the 1st recording layer 21 and 2nd recording layer 22 were made to fadeize, and the color tone became gray. That is, in the reversibility multicolor record medium of the example 2 of a comparison, recording layers 22 and 23 other than the maximum upper recording layer, i.e., the 2nd and 3rd recording layers in drawing 3, could not be decolorized independently, and color specification became not clear. [0108]

[Evaluation result 3]

About the reversibility multicolor record medium of the above-mentioned example 1, record and elimination were performed repeatedly 100 times, the laser light of three kinds of wavelength, 795nm, the wavelength of 860nm, and the wavelength of 980nm, was irradiated after that, color specification was performed, and the chromaticity was evaluated. An evaluation result is shown in the following table 3. [0109]

[Table 3]

| [x] " | | | |
|-------|--|--|--|
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| | | | |

[0110]

As shown in the above-mentioned table 3, when the laser light of predetermined wavelength was irradiated after the reversibility multicolor record medium of an example 1 performed record and elimination repeatedly 100 times, it could make the desired recording layer have been able to color, and was able to be expressed as image quality equivalent to the first stage.

[0111]

[Effect of the Invention]

According to the reversibility multicolor record medium of this invention, by irradiating the infrared radiation which made wavelength selection, the desired recording layer was made to generate heat alternatively, conversion with a reversible coloring condition and a decolorization condition could be performed, and clear image display was obtained. Moreover, when informational record and elimination were performed repeatedly, image quality equivalent to the first stage was acquired.

[0112]

Moreover, according to this invention approach, the image of high quality without a color fogging was recordable by making order carry out a laminating on a support substrate from the recording layer containing optical-thermal-conversion ingredient which has absorption in long wavelength.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[<u>Drawing 1</u>] The outline sectional view of an example of the reversibility multicolor record medium of this invention is shown.

[Drawing 2] The absorption spectrum of cyanine dye is shown.

[<u>Drawing 3</u>] The outline sectional view of the reversibility multicolor record medium produced in the example 1 of a comparison is shown.

[Description of Notations]

1 [... The 1st recording layer, 12 / ... The 2nd recording layer, 13 / ... 14 The 3rd recording layer, 15 / ... A thermal break, 16 / ... A protective layer, 20 / ... A reversibility multicolor record medium, 21 / ... The 1st recording layer, 22 / ... The 2nd recording layer, 23 / ... 24 The 3rd recording layer, 25 / ... A thermal break, 26 / ... Protective layer] A support substrate, 2 ... A support substrate, 10 ... A reversibility multicolor record medium, 11

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[<u>Drawing 1</u>] The outline sectional view of an example of the reversibility multicolor record medium of this invention is shown.

[Drawing 2] The absorption spectrum of cyanine dye is shown.

<u>[Drawing 3]</u> The outline sectional view of the reversibility multicolor record medium produced in the example 1 of a comparison is shown.

[Description of Notations]

1 [... The 1st recording layer, 12 / ... The 2nd recording layer, 13 / ... 14 The 3rd recording layer, 15 / ... A thermal break, 16 / ... A protective layer, 20 / ... A reversibility multicolor record medium, 21 / ... The 1st recording layer, 22 / ... The

2nd recording layer, 23 / .. 24 The 3rd recording layer, 25 / .. A thermal break, 26 / .. Protective layer] A support substrate, 2 .. A support substrate, 10 .. A reversibility multicolor record medium, 11

(18) 日本国特許庁(JP)

(12)公開特許公報(A)

(11)特許出願公開番号

特開2004-155010

(P2004-155010A) (43) 公報日 平成16年6月3日(2004.6.3)

| (51) Int. C1. THE B41 M B41 J B41 M B41 M B42 D | 5/26 2/32 5/30 5/34 15/10 | F 1 B 4 1 M B 4 2 D B 4 2 D B 4 1 M B 4 1 M 審査請求 別 | 15/10 5 15/10 5 5/18 1 5/18 | D 501D 501K 101A E 概の数 7 OL | テーマコード 2COO5 2HO26 (全 20 頁) | 最終質に続く |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| (21) 出願番号(22) 出驟日 | | 特聯2092-322105 (P2002-322105) 平成14年11月6日 (2002.11.6) | (71) 出聚人 (74) 代理人 (72) 発明者 (72) 発明者 (72) 発明者 | 000002185 ソニー株工 東京部品工 1000905:27 新聞記:27 新聞:28 新聞:28 新聞:28 新聞:28 第二一株 那品式 東京 # 東京 # 東京 # 東京 # 東京 # 東京 # 東京 # 東京 # | 品川6丁目7: 千事子 品川6丁目7: 品川6丁目7: | 齢35号 ソ 齢35号 ソ |
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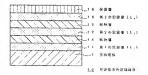
(54) 【発明の名称】可逆性多色記録媒体、及びこれを用いた記録方法

(57)【製約】

【線題】 色かぶりの無い明瞭なコントラストを有し、繰り返して記録と消去を行った場合においても色労化の無い可逆性多色感熱影響媒体とこれを用いた記録方法を提供する。

【解決手段】支持基礎1の能方向に、発色色調の異なる 複数の可能性緊急発性類は液体、それぞれ含育する能 線層11-13が分離・機器形成され、複数の可逆性感 緊発性質損度物は、それぞ乳費なる波長線の赤外線を吸 収して発熱する光一熱変染材料を含有し、記録際11-13に含まれる光一熱変染材料の吸収ビーク波長は、支 持基板1に発も近後に形成されている層が減を長波長で あり、種類卵に表際に向からに従って知波長となる可逆 性参色密複雑体を指針する

【選択数】 図1



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】

支持基板の面方向に、発色色調の異なる複数の可逆性感熱発色性組成物を、それぞれ含有する記録語が、分離・藉屬形成されてなり、

上記複数の司遊性燃熱発色管網或物は、それぞれ異なる波長域の赤外線を吸収して発熱する光一然変換材料を含有しており、

上記記録層に含まれる光一熱変換材料の吸収ビーク波長は、上記支持基板の最も近傍に形成されている簡が最も長波長であり、積膺順に表層に向かうに従って短波長となることを 特徴とする可逆性多色記録媒体。

[請求期2]

上記光-熱変換材料の少なくともひとつが、シアニン系色素またはフタロシアニン系色素であることを特徴とする請求項1に記載の可逆性多色記録媒体。

【糖菜和3】

上記支持基板の面方向に、上配複数の記録器が、それぞれ断熱器を介して積層形成された ことを特徴とする蓄水項1に配載の再進性多色記録媒体。

【請求項4】

級表面に保護器が形成されていることを特徴とする請求項1又は2に配載の可遊性多色記 録媒体。

【請求項5】

上記記録器には、電子供与性を有する呈色性化合物と、電子受容性を有する頭・減色剤と が含有されてなり、

上記電子供与性を有する量色性化合物と、上記電子要容性を有する顕・減色剤との間の可 適的反応により、上記記録順が発色あるいは消色の二状態に可逆的に変化するようになさ れていることを特徴とする上記請求項1乃至4のいずれか一項に記載の可逆性多色記録媒 体。

【额求項6】

支持基板の面方向に、発色色調の異なる複数の可逆性感熱発色性粗成物を、それぞれ含有する記録層が、分離・積層形成されてなり、上記複数の可逆性感熱発色性組成物は、それぞれ異なる波長域の赤外線を吸収して発熱する光一熱変換材料を含有し、上記記録端に含まれる光一熱変換材料の吸収ピーク波長は、上記支持基板の最も近傍に形成されている所が最も長波展であり、積層順に表層に向かうに従って短波長となるようにした可逆性多色記錄媒体を用いて、

加熱処理を施して予め上組紀綴綴全体を適角状態にしておき、

所望の画像質報に応じ、上紀紀録層のうちの選択されたものに対応して選択された波長領 破の赤外線を照射して霧光を行い、

上紀配鐘層を発熱せしめ、選択的に発色化させることにより、上配衝像情報の記録を行う ことを特徴とする可逆性多色記録媒体の記録方法。

【翻求項7】

受得基板の個方向に、発色色濃の異なる複数の可逆性感熱発色性組成物を、それぞれ含有する記録層が、分離・酸層形成されてなり、上配複数の可逆性感熱発色性組成物は、それぞれ異なる波長域の赤外線を吸収して発熱する光-熱変換材料を含有し、上配記録網に含まれる光-熱変換材料の吸収ピーク波長は、上配支持基板の酸も近傍に形成されている層が最も長波長であり、機層順に表層に向かうに従って短波長となるようにした可逆性多色配線媒体を用いて、

加熱処理を施して予め上組紀錄屬全体を発色状態にしておき、

所領の画像領報に応じ、上記配録器のうちの選択されたものに対応して選択された波長領 被の赤外線を単射して選択を行い、

上記記録輯を発熱せしめ、選択的に消色化することにより、上記画像精製の記録を行うことを特徴とする可逆性多色記録媒体の記録方法。

【作明の詳細な淵明】

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[0001]

【発明の願する技術分野】

本発明は藤像またはデータを記録するための可逆性多色記録媒体、およびこれを用いた記録 独方法に関わる。

100021

【従来の特徴】

近年、地球環境的な見地から、リライタブル記録技術の必要性が強く認識されている。コンピューターのネットワーク技術、通信技術、OA 機器、記録メディア、記憶メディア等の進歩を背景としてオフィスや家産でのペーパーレス化が進んでいる。

[0003]

印刷物に替わる表示媒体のひとつである、熱により可逆的に情報の記録や消去が可能な記録媒体、いむゆる可遠性感熱記録媒体は、各種プリペイドカード、ポイントカード、クレジットカード、1 C カード等の普及に伴い、残額やその他の記録情報等の可提化、可読化の用途において実用化されており、さらには、複写機およびプリンター用途においても実用化されつつある。

[0004]

上紀のような可逆性感熱記録媒体およびこれを用いた記録方法に関しては、例えば下記特 許文献1~4等に記載されている。これらは、いむゆる低分子分散タイプ、すなわち樹脂 母材中に有機低分子物質を分散させた記録媒体であり、熱羅歴により光の散乱を変化させ 、記録層を自濁あるいは透明状態に変化させるものであるため、瀬像形成部と画像未形成 都のコントラストが不充分であるという欠点を有しているため、記録解の下に反射層を設 けることにより、コントラストを向上させた媒体のみが実用化されている。

[0005]

一方、例えば下記特許文献5~9 には、ロイコ染料タイプ、すなわち樹脂段材中に電子供 与性量色性化合物であるロイコ染料と、頭・減色剤とが分散された記録層を有する記録形 依、およびこれを用いた記録方法が開示されている。これらにおいて、順・減色剤として は、ロイコ染料を発色させる酸性素と、発色したロイコ染料を消色させる塩毒性基を有す る面軽化合物、または長顔アルキルをもつフェノール化合物などが用いられている。この 記數媒体および記録方法は、ロイコ染料自体の発色を利用するため、低分子分散タイプに 比較してコントラスト、初認性が良好であり、近年広く実用化されつつある。

[0006]

上記各特許文献により開示されている従来技術においては、母材の材料の色すなわち地創 の色と、熱により変色した色の二種類の色のみしか表現することができない。しかし近年 では、根徳性やファッション性向上のために、多色画像の表示や各種データを色蔵別して 紀録したりすることへの要求が非常に高まっている。

これに対し、上記従来方法を応用し、かつ多色顕像の表示を行う記録方法が確々提案されている。

[0007]

[00008]

下部特許文献13、14においては、ロイコ染料を用いた可逆性感熱多色紀錄線体に関する間点がなされているが、面内に色相の異なる繰り返し単位を有するものであるため、各色相が美限に記録される面積比が小さい。その結果、記録した画像は非常に暗い、または物い画像しか得ることはできないという問題があった。

[00009]

下記得許文献15~23においては、発色温度、消色温度、冷却速度などが異なるロイコ 60

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染料を用いた記録網を分離、独立した状態で形成された構成の可逆性感熱多色記録媒体に 闘する離示がなされている。

しかし、サーマルヘッドなどの記録鉄速による温度コントロールが接端なうえ、良好なコ ントラストが得られず、色のかぶりを避けられないという問題を有している。さらには、 三角以上の多色化をサーマルヘッド等による加熱温度および/または加熱後の冷却速度の 違いのみでコントロールするのは非常に保難である。

[0010]

一方、下記特許文献24においては、ロイコ染料を用いた記録層を、分離。独立した状態 で形成した構成の可逆性感熱多色記録媒体において、レーザー光による光ー熱変換によっ て、任業の影響層のみを無勢、発色させる影響方法に顕する潮光がなされている。この方 法によれば、光一勢変換層の波長選択性の効果により、任意の記録層のみ発色させること ができ、従来の可逆性多色記録媒体で問題であった、色のかぶりの問題が解決できる可能 性がある。

[0011]

しかし、上記各物許文献では、レーザー光吸収液器と光一熱変換層の積層額に関する検討 はなされておらず、完全に所留の色のみを発色させることに関しては不充分であり、負か ぶりの問題は米だ充分解決されていなかった。

[0012]

【辞件文献】】

转期間54-119377号公割

【特許文獻2】

特開昭 5 5 - 1 5 4 1 9 8 号公報

【特許文献3】

特開昭63-39377号公製 【特許文獻4】

特開閱63-41186号公報

【辦許文献5】

特朗年2-188293号公報

【特許文獻6】

特期平2-188294号公额

【特許文献7】

将開平5-124360号公報

【铃浒文献8】

特開平7-108761号公報

【特許文献9】

特爾平7-188294紛分類

【特許文献10】

特爾平5-62189号公爾

【特种文献11】

特開平8-80682号公報

【特許文獻12】

粉開2000-198275号公報

【辩許文献13】

将期平8-58245号公報

【特許文献14】

特開2000-25338号公報

【给胜文献15】

特開平6-305247号公報

【特許文献16】

特開平6-328844母公報

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【特許文献17】

特關平6-79970号公報

【特許文献18】

特期平8-164669号公弱

【特許文獻19】

特關平8-300825号公報

【特許文献20】 将開平9 52445号公報

【特許文献21】

特爾平11-138997号公報

【特許文獻22】

特開2001-162941号公報

【辨許文獻23】

特期2002 -- 59654 号公報

【特許文獻24】

特腦2001~1645号公器

[0013]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】

上述したように多色感熱影響への襲撃は大きく、研究が盛んに行われているが、実用的に 滋足できる記録特件を有する犯録媒体、あるいは記録方式は未だ買いだされていないのが 20 現状である。

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[0015]

そこで本発明においては、このような従来技術の問題に鑑みて、色かぶりが無く、明瞭な 発消色およびコントラストを有し、かつ実用上問題のない画像安定性を持ち、任意の色譜 を繰り返して発色・消去可能な可逆性多色感熱記録媒体を用いた記録方法を提供する。

【糠糠を解決するための手段】

本発明の可逆性多色記機媒体は、支持基板の節方向に、発色色調の異なる複数の可逆性感 熱発色性組成物を、それぞれ含有する記録器が、分離・積層形成され、複数の可能性感熱 発色性組成物は、それぞれ異なる潜移域の素外線を吸収して影響する光…熱変換材料を含 有し、記録層に含まれる光…熱変換材料の吸収ピーク波移は、支持基板の最も近傍に形成 されている勝が最も長波長であり、積層離に表層に向かうに従って頻波長となるものとす × ...

[0016]

本発明の可逆性多色記録媒体の記録方法は、支持基板の面方向に、発色色調の異なる複数 の可導性感熱発色性組成物を、それぞれ含有する影響層が、分離・離層形成され、複数の 可遊性感熱発色性組成物は、それぞれ異なる波長級の赤外線を吸収して発熱する光ー熱変 機材料を食有し、記録器に含まれる光ー熱変機材料の吸収ビーク波長は、支持基板の爵も 近傍に形成されている層が最も長波長であり、積層順に表層に向かうに従って短波長とな る可逆性多色記録媒体を用いて、先ず、加熱処理を施して予め記録層全体を消色状態にし ておき、次に、所望の頭線整器に応じ、記録層のうちの選択されたものに対応して選択さ れた波護領域の赤外線を照射して露光を行い、記録層を発熱せしめ、選択的に発色化させ ることにより、画像蓄製の記録を行うものとする。

[0017]

また。本発明の可差性多色紀錄媒体の記錄方法は、支持基板の面方向に、発色色顯の異な る複数の可逆性感熱発色性組成物を、それぞれ含有する記録層が、分離・積層形成され、 趨動の司事件機動発色性組成物は、それぞれ異なる適再版の素外線を吸収して発熱する光 - 無変換材料を含有し、記録層に含まれる光-熱変換材料の吸収ピーク被移は、支持基板 の最も近傍に形成されている層が最も長波長であり、積層順に表層に向かうに従って短波 長となる可逆性多色記録媒体を用いて、先ず、加熱処理を施して予め上記記録器全体を発

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急状態にしておき、次に、所望の画像情報に応じ、起繋層のうちの選択されたものに対応 して選択された波長領域の赤外線を照射して露光を行い、記録層を発熱せしめ、選択的に 消色化することにより、画像情報の記録を行うものとする。

[8100]

本発明によれば、波良選択した赤外線を照射することにより、任意の記録層を選択的に発 熱せしめ、明瞭で可逆的な発色状態と消色状態との変換を行うことができ、繰り返して情 顔の記録および哲夫を行った場合においても色かぶりや浪角を同識できた。

[0019]

【発明の実施の形態】

以下、本発明の異体的な実施の形態について、器面を参照して説明するが、本発明の可逆 性多色記録版体およびその記録方法は、以下の例に限定されるものではない。

[0020]

図1に本発明の可逆性多色記録媒体の機略新面図を示す。

この可逆性多色配線媒体10は、支持導板1上に、第1の記線器11、第2の記録器12 、および第3の記録器13が、それぞれ断熱器14、15を介して積層されており、設上 順に保護器16が形成された縁破かを1上でいる。

[0021]

支持基板 I は、耐熱性に優れ、かつ平面方向の寸法安定性の高い材料であれば従来公知の 材料を適宜使用することができる。例えばポリエステル、硬質塩化ビニル等の高分子材料 の他、ガラス材料、ステンレス等の金属材料、あるいは紙等の材料から適宜選択できる。 ただしオーバーヘッドプロジェクター等の透過用途以外では、支持基板 I は最終的に得ら れる可逆性多色記機版体 I 0 に対して情報の記録を行った際の視認性の向上を図るため、 白色、あるいは金麗色を有する可視光に対する反射率の高い材料によって形成することが 好ましい。

[0022]

[0023]

第1~第3の記録層11~13は、例えばロイコ染料と、鎖・減色剤とを樹脂母材中に分散させた塗料を塗布することによって形成する。

第1~第3の起躁器 11~13は、それぞれが発色する所望の色に応じ、所定のロイコ染料を用いて形成する。例えば第1~第3の記録器 11~13において、三原色を発色するようにすれば、この可逆性多色記録媒体 10全体としてフルカラー画像の形成が可能になる。

[0024]

ロイコ染料としては、既存の感熱級用染料等を適用することができる。順・減色剤としては、 従来とれらに担いられている長鎖アルキル基を有する有機酸(特間平5 -- 1 2 4 3 6 0 号公報、特間平7 -- 1 0 8 7 6 1 号公報、特間平7 -- 1 8 8 2 9 4 号公報、特間 2 0 0 1 -- 1 1 3 8 2 9 号公報等に記載)等を適用することができる。

[0026]

第1~第3の記録欄 11~13は、上記のようにそれぞれ異なる彼良城に吸収をもつ崇外線吸収色素を含有しているものとし、図1の可遊性多色記録媒体10においては、第1の記録欄11が被長 1,の赤外線を、第2の記録欄12が波長 1,の赤外線を、第2の記録欄12が波長 1,の赤外線を、それぞれ吸収して発熱する光-熱変換材料を含有しているものとする。

[0026]

また、第1~第3の記録層11~13内に含有される光一幾変換材料としては、可積波長 域にほとんど吸収がない近末外線吸収色素として一般的に用いられる。フタロシアニン系 60 (7)

築料やシアニン系染料、金属動体染料、ジインモニウム系染料、アミニウム系染料、イミ ニウム系染料等を適用できる。さらに、任意の光-熱変換材料のみを発熱させるために、 光ー熱変換材料の吸収帯が狭く、互いに重なり合わない材料の組み合わせを選択すること が好ましい。このことから、支持基板1の最も近傍に形成されている第1の記録層11を 除いては、鉛経層中に、吸収スペクトルが急峻なシアニン系色素、またはフタロシアニン 系色素を含有させることにより、色かぶりを防止することができる。

[0027]

第1~第3の記録器11~13形成用の機能としては、例えばボリ塩化ビニル、ボリ酢酸 ビニル、塩化ビニルー酢酸ビニル共重合体、エチルセルロース、ポリスチレン、スチレン 系非重合体、フェノキシ機器、ポリエステル、芳香族ポリエステル、ポリウレタン、ポリ 10 カーボネート、ボリアクリル酸エステル。ボリメタクリル酸エステル、アクリル酸系共順 合体、マレイン酸系素合体、ポリピニルアルコール、変性ポリピニルアルコール、ヒドロ キシエチルセルロース、カルボキシメチルセルロース、デンプン等が挙げられる。これら の機關に必要に応じて案外機吸収細等の各種議組網を併用してもよい。

[0028]

第1~第3の影優勝11~13は、上記ロイコ染料、順・減負額、光一熱変機材料、およ び各種添加剤を、溶媒を用いて上記樹脂中に溶解あるいは分散させて作製した塗料を、そ れぞれ帝定の面に塗布することによって形成することができる。

第 1 ~ 第 3 の 記録 層 1 1 ~ 1 3 は、 膜 厚 1 ~ 2 0 μ m 程度に 形成することが 望ましく。 さ らには1、5~15 pm程度が好ましい。記録機の機學が薄すぎると充分な発色濃度が得 20 られず、逆に駆過ぎると記録器の熱容量が大きくなることによって発色性や消色性が劣化 するためである。

[0029]

第1の記録勝11と第2の記録器12との間、第2の記録器12と第3の記録器13との 間には、それぞれ透光性の断熱勝14、15を形成することが望ましい。これによって隣 接する記録機の熱が伝導してしまうことが興難され、いわゆる色かぶりの発生を防止する 効果が得られる。

[0030]

新熱腦14、15は、従来公知の透光性のポリマーを用いて形成することができる。例え ばポリ塩化ビニル、ポリ酢酸ビニル、塩化ビニルー酢酸ビニル共煮合体。エチルセルロー ス、ポリスチレン、スチレン系技革合体、フェノキシ樹脂、ポリエステル、芳香佐ポリエ ステル、ポリウレタン、ポリカーホネート、ポリアクリル酸エステル、ポリメタクリル酸 エステル、アクリル商業共産合体、マレイン商業単合体、ボリビニルアルコール、寮性ポ リビニルアルコール、ヒドロキシエチルセルロース、カルポキシメチルセルロース、デン プン等が挙げられる。これらのポリマーには必要に応じて無外線吸収剥等の各種添加剤を 併用してもよい。

[00311

また、新熱粉14、15としては透光性の無機服を適用することもできる。例えば、多孔 質のシリカ、アルミナ、チタニア。カーボンまたはこれらの複合体等を適用すると熱伝導 率の低減化が閉られ好ましい。これらは、液腸から膜形成できるソルーゲル法によって形 成することができる。

[0032]

新黙勝14,15は、羰厚3~100μm程度に形成することが望ましく、さらには5~ 50 um 程度が好ましい。断熱層の瞬度が強すぎると充分な新熱効果が得られず、膜原が 類すぎると、後述する記録媒体全体を均一加熱する際に熱伝導性が劣化したり、透光性が 低下したりするためである。

[0033]

保護層16は、従来公知の紫外線硬化性樹脂や熱硬化性樹脂を用いて形成することができ 、順厚は 0、1~20μm、さらには 0、5~5μm程度とすることが望ましい。保護層 16の順厚が薄すぎると充分な保護効果が得られず、単すぎると、記録媒体全体を均一加 60

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熟する際に伝統しにくくなるという不都台が生じるためである。

[0034]

次に、関1に示した可逆性多色記録媒体10を用いて、多色記録を行う原理について説明する。

[0035]

先ず、多色記録の第1の原理を説明する。

図」に示した可遊性多色記録媒体10を、各記録器が消色する程度の温度、納えば120 て程度の温度で全面加熱し、第1~第3の記録器11~13を予め消色状態にしておく。 すなわちこの状態においては、支持基板1の色が露出している状態となっているものとする。

[0036]

次に可逆性多色記録媒体10の任意の部分に、波長および出力を任意に選択した赤外線を 半導体レーザー等により限制する。

例えば第1の起鱗層11を発色させる場合には、波及み、の水外線を第1の記鱗層11が 着色温度に速する程度のエネルギーで照射し、光一熱変換材料を発熱させて、電子供与性 最色化合物と電子供身性膜・減色剤との間の発色反応を起こさせ、駆射能分を浄色させる

同様に、第2の記録暦 1 2 および第3の記録暦 1 3 についても、それぞれ波長入2、入3の未外線を発色温度に確する程度のエネルギーを顕射してそれぞれの光一熱変換材料を発動させて照射部分を発色させることができる。このようにすることによって、可逆性多色記録候体 1 0 の任意の部分を発色させることができ、フルカラー画像形成や種々の情報の記録が可能となる。

[0037]

また、上記のようにして発色させた記録欄において、さらに任意の被長の赤外線を、第1 ~第3の記録着11~13が消色温度に達する程度のエネルギーで照射し、それぞれの光 一熱変換材料を発熱させて、電子供与性量色化合物と電子供与性類・減色組との間の消色 反応を起こさせることによって、消色化させることができる。

[0038]

更に、上述のようにして一部を着色化、あるいは消色化させた可逆性多色記録媒体10の 全体を、全ての記録層が消色する程度の温度、例えば120でで一様に加熱することによって、記録情報や画像を消去することができ、上述した操作を繰り返すことによって再度 記録を行うことが可能である。

[0039]

次に、多色記録の第2の原理を説明する。

図 1 に示した可適性多色配録媒体 1 0 を、各記録層が発色する程度の温度、例えば 2 0 0 で程度の高速で全面加熱、次いで冷却し、第 1 ~第 3 の記録圏 1 1~ 1 3 を全て予め発色状態にしておく。

[0040]

次に可逆性多色記録媒体10の任意の部分に、液長および出力を任意に選択した赤外線を 半等体レーザー等により照射する。

例えば第1の記録解11を消色させる場合には、波艮入、の準外線を第1の記録解11が 消色する程度のエネルギーで照射し、光一熱変換料料を発熱させて記録解11を消色状態 とする。同様に、第2の記録解12および第3の記録解13についても、それぞれ波艮人 。、 A。の赤外線を、消色温度に達する程度のエネルギーで照射してそれぞれの光一熱変 強材を発熱させて照射部分を消色させることができる。このようにすることによって、 可逆性多色記録解体10の任意の部分を消色させることができ、フルカラー調像形成や種 々の情報の記録が可能となる。

[0041]

また、上記のようにして消色させた記録層において、さらに任意の波長の赤外線を、第1 ~第3の記録欄11~13が発色温度に遂する程度のエネルギーで照射し、それぞれの光 56 (9)

- 無変換材料を発熱させて、電子供与性の星色化合物と電子供与性の顕・減色剤との間の 発色反応を起こさせることによって、発色化させることができる。

[0042]

更に、上述のようにして一部を発色化あるいは消色化させた可逆性多色記録媒体10の全体を、全ての記録欄が着色する程度の温度、例えば200で一様に加熱し、次いで冷却することによって、記録情報や画像を消去することができ、上記操作を繰り返し行うことによって、再度記録が可能となる。

[0043]

本発明の可逆性多色記録媒体10に対して、上述した記録方法のうち、いずれの方法を適用するかは、記録層の特性、記録光潔の性能に応じて適宜選択する。例えば、記録層を高温で加熱し発色状態としておき、それ以下の温度で消色する、いわゆるポジ型の層として形成してもよく、高温で消色状態としておき、それ以下の温度で発色する、いわゆるネガ型の層として形成してもよい(例えば装開平8--197853号公園)。

[0 0 4 4]

次に、本発明の可逆的多色記錄媒体10を構成する記錄器の積層額について説明する。 図2に、第1の記録層11~第3の記録層13にそれぞれ含有されている光一熱変換材料の一側のシアニン系色素の吸収スペクトルを示す。

図に示すように、吸収スペクトルは、吸収ピークの長波展側は非常にシャープであるが、 短波展側は比較的なだらかである。

[0045]

図2に示すように、照射する赤外線の波長は $\lambda_2 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_1$ である。本発明の可逆性多色記録媒体10は、図1に示すように、支持基板1上に、吸収ピーク波長が、それぞれ λ_1 、 λ_2 、 λ_3 である第1の記録層11~第3の記録層13が順次積層されている。すなわち、支持基板1側から、吸収ピーク波長が長い光一熱変換材料(赤外線吸収剤)を含有する記録階から順に積層されているものとする。

[0046]

このような構成の可逆性多色配縁媒体においては、液長 λ_3 の赤外線を照射したとき、第3の記録器13のみで吸収されて発熱し、この第3の記録器13のみ発色させることができる。同様に、 λ_3 よりも長い液長 λ_2 の赤外線を照射したとき、第3の記録器13においては吸収されずに透過し、第2の記録器12のみで吸収されて発熱し、この第2の記録器12のみを発色させることができる。

また、 λ_2 、 λ_3 よりも長い波長 λ_1 の赤外線を照射したとき、第3の紀線階13および第2の記線器12においては吸収されずに透通し、第1の記線器11のみで吸収されて発 額し、この第1の記録器11のみを発色させることができる。

[0047]

[0048]

この記録媒体20に対して、波艮入、の赤外線を照射した場合には、第1の記録層21のみで吸収され発熱し、第1の記録層21のみ発色させることができる。

しかしながら、波長 λ_z の赤外線を照射した場合には、図2に示したように、シアニン系 色素。フタロシアニン系色素の吸収スペクトルは、吸収ビークの短波長側では比較的なだらかであるため、第2の記録圏22に到達する前に、上層の第1の記録圏21で吸収され、第1の記録例21を発色させてしまう。

同様に、被長入3の赤外線を照射した場合には、第3の記録層23に到達する前に、上層の第1の記録層21 および第2の記録層22で吸収され、これらの記録層を発色させてしまう。

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このように、吸収ピーク波長が無い光一熱変換材料(赤外線吸収剤)を含有する記録層の 上層に吸収ピーク波長が長い光一熱変換材料(赤外線吸収剤)を含有する記録層を積層すると、無質の配録線の再発を積層すると、形でます。 他かぶりが渡年する。

[0049]

上述したように、光一触変換材料として近赤外吸収色素を用いる場合には、色素の吸収スペクトルの形状と、光一熱変換材料を含有する記録層の積蓄順を考慮し、支持基集側から、吸収ビーク液長が長い光一熱変換材料(赤外線吸収荷)を含有する記録層から順次機器することにより、発色色譜のかぶりを防止することが可能となる。

[0050]

また、上述したことから、支持基板の最も近傍に形成する記録圏を除いては、吸収スペクトルにおいて吸収ビークの長波接側がシャープな、シアニン系色素またはフタロシアニン 条色素を用いるのが好ましい。

[0051]

[海線網]

次に、本発明について異体的な実施例および比較衡を挙げて説明するが、本発明の可逆性 多色記数媒体およびその影響方法は、以下に示す傾に閉定されるものではない。

[0052]

(実施例1)

この例においては、図1に示すように、支持垂板1上に第1の記録器11、断熱層14、 第2の記録器12、断熱器15、第3の記録器13、および保護器16が順次積層された 20 、いわゆる3部の可逆性記録器を有する記録媒体を作製した。

100531

支持基板 1 として、厚さ 1 m m の白色のポリエチレンテレフタレート基板を用意した。次 に第 1 の記録層 1 1 として、支持基板 1 上に下記程成物をワイヤーパーで塗布し、1 1 0 でにて 5 分削 加熱乾燥 短乗を施し、シアンに発色させることのできる 記録 層を 限厚 6 μ m に形成した。

第1の記録隠11の波移980nmの光における吸光度は1,0であった。

[0054]

(組成物)

ロイコ協舞(由田化学工業製:H-3035(下紀(化1)): | 華麗部

[0055]

[化1]

[0056]

瀬・減色剤(下記〔化2〕に示す物質):4 重量部

[0057]

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[0058]

塩化ビニル酢酸ビニル共重合体:10重量部

(塩化ビニル90%、酢酸ビニル10%、平均分子量(M.W.)115000)シアニン系染外吸収色素:0、30重量部

(H. W. SANDS社製、SDA8956、紀録圏中での要収波長ピーク986nm) テトラヒドロフラン (THF): 140重量部

(11)

[0059]

上述のようにして形成した第1の記録圏11上に、ポリビニルアルコール水溶液を塗布、 数優して腰原20μmの転熱圏14を形成した。

[0060]

第2の記録層12の波長860nmの光における吸光度は1、0であった。

[0061]

(組成物)

ロイコ染料 (保土ヶ谷化学社製: Red DCF (下紀 (化3)):2 乗景部

[0062]

[(6 3]

[00631

顕・減色類(下記(化4)に示す物質):4 電景部

100641

[(4.4]

[0 0 6 5]

塩化ビニル酢酸ビニル共風合体:10重量部

(塩化ビニル90%、酢酸ビニル10%、M、W、115000)

シアニン系赤外吸収色素: 0. 12重量部

(林維生物化学研究所製、NK-5706、配録層中での吸収波展ピーク860nm) テトラヒドロプラン (THF):140番級部

100661

上述のようにして形成した第2の記録網12上に、ポリビニルアルコール水溶液を塗布、 乾燥して膜厚20 a mの断熱圏15を形成した。

[00671

上記新熟籍15上に、第3の記録器13として下記組成物をワイヤーバーで塗布し、11 びでにて5分間加熱乾燥処理を施し、イエローに発色させることのできる層を順厚6μm に形成した。

第3の影線勝13の波得795 nmの光における吸光度は1.0であった。

[0068]

(組織物)

ロイコ染料 (フルオラン化合物: Amax = 490 nm); 2 重量部

羅・臧色綱(下記(化5)に示す物質):4重量部

[0069]

[48.5]

[0070]

増化ビニル酢酸ビニル共産合体:10業量部

(塩化ビニル90%、酢酸ビニル10%、M、W、115000)

シアニン系素外吸収色素:0.08質量館

「日本化薬製、CY-10、影録願申での吸収被移ビーク795nm)

テトラヒドロフラン (T目F):140 業績部

[0071]

上記算3の記録欄13上に、紫外鏡硬化性樹脂を用いて攤展約2μmの保護層16を形成 し、目的とする可能性多色紀数媒体10を作額した。

100721

上述のようにして作襲した可逆性多角症幾個体10を、120℃に加熱したセラミックス バーを用いて一様に加熱し、第1~第3の記録層11~13を消色状態にしたものをサン プルとした。

100731

[寒觞倒2]

上記実施側1において作響した可避性多色記録媒体10を、180℃に加熱したセラミッ クスパーを用いて加熱し、続いて冷却し、第1の記録脳11、第2の記録器12、および 第3の影響勝13を、いずれも予め発色化させたものをサンプルとした。

[0074]

(比較例1)

この例においては、実施例1の可逆性多色記録媒体10とは、近赤外線吸収色素を含有す る記録器の積層順を変えて、記録媒体を作製した。

図3に本比較例における可逆性多色紀錄媒体の概略新面図を示す。

支持基板2として、厚さ1mmの白色のポリエチレンテレフタレート基板を用意した。 次に支待基板21に、第3の記録機23として下記組成物をワイヤーバーで塗布し、11 0 ℃にて5分間加熱乾燥処理を施し、シアンに発色させることのできる記録層を膜厚6 u niに形成した。

第3の記録響23の波長795nmの光における吸光度は1.0であった。

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(13)

[0075]

(組成物)

ロイコ染料(由田化学工業製: H-3035(下記〔化6〕);1乗級部

[0076]

[[6]

$$C_2H_5$$
 C_2H_5
 C_2H_5
 C_2H_5
 C_2H_5

[0077]

麗・滅色剤(下記(化7)に示す物質):4重量部

[0078]

【化7】

$$HO \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} N - \stackrel{\text{if}}{C} - N - (CH_2) \frac{17}{17} CH$$

[0079]

塩化ビニル路輪ビニル非菌合体:10重量総

(塩化ビニル90%、酢酸ビニル10%、平均分子量(M.W.) 115000)

シアニン系赤外吸収色素: 0.08重量部

(日本化蒸製、CY-10、記録腦中での吸収変提ピーク795nm)

テトラヒドロフラン (THF): 140 重量部

100801

上述のようにして形成した第3の記録器23上に、ポリビニルアルコール水溶液を塗布、

乾燥して勝厚20μmの新熱腦24を形成した。

[0081]

上記新機構24上に、第2の記録槽22として下記組成物をワイヤーバーで塗布し、11 0でにて5分間加熱乾燥処理を施し、マセンダに発色させることのできる層を襲厚6μm

に形成した。

第2の記録層22の、液長860mmの光における吸光度は1、0であった。

[0082]

(組(物)

ロイコ染料 (保土ヶ谷化学社製: Red DCF (下紀 [化8]): 2 重量部

[0083]

[#8]

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[0084]

劉・滅色剤(下肥(化9)に示す物質):4 重量部

[0085]

[48.9]

$$HO \longrightarrow N - C - N - (CH_2)_{17} - CH_3$$

[0086]

塩化ビニル酢酸ビニル共業合体:10重量部

(塩化ビニル90%、酢酸ビニル10%、M, W, 115000)

シアニン系赤外吸収色素: 0、12重量部

(林原生物化学研究所製、NK-5706、記録層中での吸収被長ピーク860nm)

(14)

テトラヒドロフラン (THF): 140重量部

[0087]

上述のようにして形成した第2の記録器22上に、ポリピニルアルコール水溶液を塗布、 乾燥して膜厚26μmの断熱器25を形成した。

100881

断熱層 2 5上に、第 1 の記録層 2 1 として下記組成物をワイヤーバーで塗布し、 1 1 0 π に π 5 π 6 π π 6 π 7 π 7 π 7 π 8 π 8 π 8 π 9 π 8 π 9 π 8 π 9 π 8 π 9 π

第1の紀録数21の、波提980 nmの光における機能度は1、0であった。

100891

(組成物)

ロイコ第科 (フルオラン化合物: Amax = 490 nm): 2 維制部

端・越色剤(下紀(化10)に示す物質):4準量部

[0090]

T#101

[0091]

塩化ビニル附種ビニル装置合体:10重量部

(塩化ビニル90%、酢酸ビニル10%、M, W, 115000)

シアニン系赤外吸収色素: 0、30重量部

(H. W. SANDS社製、SDA8956, 記録層中での吸収波長ピーク980nm)

テトラヒドロフラン (THF): 140重量部

[0092]

第1の記録暦21上に、紫外線硬化性樹脂を用いて鼈厚約2μmの保護圏26を形成し、目的とする可逆性多色記録媒体20を作製した。

[0093]

上述のようにして作製した可逆性多色記録媒体を、120℃に加熱したセラミックスバーを用いて一様に加熱し、第1の記録層21、第2の記録層22、および第3の記録層23を消色状態にしたものをサンプルとした。

[0094]

[比較例2]

上述した比較例 | において作製した可逆性多色配線媒体 2 0 を、1 8 0 ℃に加熱したセラミックスパーを用いて加熱し、続いて冷却し、第 1 の記録層 2 1 、第 2 の記録階 2 2 、および第 3 の記録層 2 3 を、いずれも予め発色化させたものをサンプルとした。

[0095]

上述のようにして作製した各配鉄媒体のサンプルについて、下泥に示す記録方法1、記録 方法2によりベタ画像の記録を行い、色調測定評価および繰り返し記録消去の特性評価を 行った。

[0096]

(紀錄方法1)

上述した実施例 1 および比較例 1 において作製した可逆性多色記録媒体サンプルの任意の位置に、波長 7 9 5 n m 出力 3 0 0 m W、波長 8 6 0 n m 出力 5 0 0 n W、波長 9 8 0 n m 出力 5 5 0 n W、スポット形状 2 0 μ m \times 2 0 μ m \times 2 μ が \times 2 μ が \times 3 μ 5 \times 4 0 \times 4 \times 4 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6 \times 7 \times 7 \times 8 \times 9 \times 9

[0097]

(記錄方法2)

上述した実施例 2. および比較例 2 において作製した可逆性多色記録媒体サンプルの任意の位置に、波長 7 9 5 n m 出力 3 0 0 m W、波長 8 6 0 n m 出力 5 0 0 m W、波長 9 8 0 n m 出力 5 5 0 m W、スポット形状 5 0 μ m × 2 0 0 μ m の ν 神 神 か ν 十一光を、それぞ れ 車 独 または 四時に、 4 0 0 0 m m ν s e c の 速 度 で スキャンさせ な が 5 照射 する ことで 織を 記録 した。これを 3 0 μ m 順隔 で 織り返し、 結果として 不 夕 m 像を 記録した。

[0098]

(色調謝定)

上紀 (記録方法 1) および (配録方法 2) により記録されたサンプルについて、 積分線を 装着した自紀分光光度計で反射率を測定し、記録された画像の D 光源に対する色度を求め た。

[00991

(繰り返し特性評価)

可逆性多色記録媒体サンブルの任意の位置に、上記(記録方法1)によりでベタ画像を記録し、120℃のセラミックパーで消去する試験を、各記録媒体の何じ位置に対して、100個繰り返し行った。記録を行った位置の色調を上記(色調測定)に示す方法で評価した。

[0 1 0 0]

【評価結果1]

上記泉廉例 1 および比較例 1 において作製した可逆性多色記録媒体について、上記(記録 方法 1)により書き込みを行い、記録された間像の色調を評価した結果を、下記表 1 に示 す。

なお、表1においては照射したレーザー光を〇、照射しなかったレーザー光を×で表した

[0101]

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【表1】

| サンブル | 照射するレーザー光の波長 | | | | 色調 | | |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|------|
| | 800nm | 860nm | 980nm | L* | a * | b* | |
| | 0 | × | × | 85. 4 | 0.74 | 71.8 | イエロー |
| | × | 0 | × | 58.0 | 76. 3 | -26.6 | マゼンダ |
| | × | × | 0 | 70. 1 | -42.1 | 39. 1 | シアン |
| 実施例1 | 0 | 0 | × | 50. 2 | 62.5 | 32.9 | レッド |
| | × | 0 | 0 | 29. 1 | 39. 8 | -66.3 | ブルー |
| | 0 | × | 0 | 54. 1 | -55. 2 | 25. 6 | グリーン |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27. 2 | 2 91 | -5.04 | ブラック |
| | × | × | × | 97. 4 | ~3.06 | -3.02 | ホワイト |
| | × | × | 0 | 85. 3 | 0.76 | 72. 1 | 1IU- |
| 比較例1 | × | 0 | × | 73. 2 | 27. 06 | 40.0 | レッド |
| | 0 | × | | 71. 3 | -5. 17 | 29.8 | グレー |

[0102]

上記表1に示すように、実施例1の可逆性多色記録媒体においては、三種類の被長のレーザー光を単独で照射したときには、それぞれに吸収ビークをもつ所定の記録層のみを発色させることができ、明瞭な色網および画像が得られた。また、三種類の波長のレーザー光に吸のうちの二種類以上を組み合わせて照射した場合においても、それぞれのレーザー光に吸収ビークをもつ所定の記録層を発色させることができ、レッド、グリーン、ブルー、ブラックのような合成色が得られ、明瞭なフルカラー表示を行うことができた。

[0103]

一方、比較例1の可適性多色記録媒体においては、波長980nmのレーザー光を照射した場合においては、図3に示す第1の記録器21を発色させ、イエローの表示がなされたが、波世860nmのレーザー光を照射した場合においては、図2に示したように吸収スペクトルは吸収ビークの幅波長側ではなだらかであるので、第2の記録器22のみならず、第1の記録器21も発色させてしまい、色韻はレッドとなった。

また、液長800mmのレーザー光を照射した場合においては、同様に第3の記録期23 のみならず、第1の記録開21および第2の記録層22も発色させてしまい、色韻はグレーとなった。

すなわち、比較例 1 の可遊性多色記録媒体においては、最上層記録器以外の記録器、すな わち図3 中の第2 および第3 の記録器 2 2 、 2 3 を単独で発色させることができず、色表 示が不明瞭になった。

[0104]

「緑飾結果2)

上紀寅第例2 および比較例2 の紀錄媒体について、上紀(紀錄方法2) により書き込みを 行い、紀録された画像の色調を評価した結果を、下記表2 に示す。

なお、表2においては照射したレーザー光を○、照射しなかったレーザー光を×で表した

[0105]

[表2]

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| サンブル | 照射するレーザー光の波長 | | | 色度 | | | 色調 |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|------|
| | 800nm | 860nm | 980nm | L* | a* | b* | |
| | 0 | × | × | 29. 2 | 38. 8 | 65. 9 | ブルー |
| | × | 0 | × | 54. 6 | -54. 2 | 25. 6 | グリーン |
| | × | × | 0 | 50.6 | 64. 5 | 31.8 | レッド |
| 実施例2 | 0 | 0 | × | 71. 1 | -42.1 | -38.7 | シアン |
| | × | 0 | 0 | 85. 0 | 0.74 | 71.6 | 1IU- |
| | 0 | × | 0 | 57.5 | 76.0 | 25. 6 | マゼンタ |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 95.4 | -3.10 | -3.00 | ホワイト |
| | × | × | × | 25. 1 | 2. 77 | -4.05 | ブラック |
| | × | × | 0 | 29. 4 | 40. Q | 65. 3 | ブルー |
| 比較例2 | × | 0 | × | 50. 9 | -35. 1 | -32. 9 | シアン |
| | 0 | × | | 41. 3 | -10.2 | 16.8 | グレー |

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[0106]

上記表2に示すように、実施例2の可逆性多色記録媒体においては、三種類の波提のレー ザー光を単純で照射したときには、それぞれに吸収ビークをもつ運宜の影響展のみを消色 させることができ、衝離の合成色を明瞭に表示でき、また、三種類の波長のレーザー光の うちの二種類以上を組み合わせて照射した場合においても、それぞれのレーザー光に吸収 ピークをもつ所定の配録層を消色させることができ、所領の色表示が行なわれ、全体とし て朝瞭なフルカラー表示を行うことができた。

[0107]

一方、比較例2の可逆性多色配縁媒体においては、波長980nmのレーザー光を照射し た場合においては、図3に示す第1の記録層21を销色させ、ブルーの表示がなされたが 、被長860mmのレーザー光を照射した場合においては、瞬2に示したように吸収スペ クトルは吸収ビークの知波長側ではなだらかであるので。第2の記録層22のみならず、 第1の記録勝21も消色させてしまい、色期はシアンとなった。

また、被長800nmのレーザー光を照射した場合においては、照機に第3の記録層23 のみならず、第1の記録層21および第2の記録層22も現色化させてしまい色護はグレ ーとなった。

すなわち、比較例2の可逆性多色記録媒体においては、酚上層記録層以外の記録層、すな わち図3中の第2および第3の記録勝22、23を単独で消色させることができず、色表 **示が不明瞭になった。**

[0108]

[評価結果3]

上記実施例1の可逆性多色記録媒体について、100回繰り返して記録と選去を行い、そ の後795 nm, 波陽860 nm, 波路980 nmの三種類の波器のレーザー光を昭射し で色表示を行い、色度を評価した。評価結果を下記表3に示す。

[0109]

| L | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|--|
| A. | 22 | ű. | .4 | |

| サンブル 照射するレーザー光の波長 | | | | 100 | 色調 | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| | 800nm | 860nm | 980nm | L.* | a* | b* | |
| | 0 | × | × | 81. 5 | 0.72 | 69. 9 | イエロー |
| 実施例1 | × | 0 | х | 56.0 | 74, 4 | -26.0 | マゼンダ |
| | | | | | | | > 000- |

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[0110]

上記表3に示すように、実施例1の可逆性多色記録媒体は、100組織り返して記録と消 去を行った後においても、所定の波長のレーザー光を照射したときには所望の記録層を発

色させることができ、初期と同等の画質で表示を行うことができた。

[0111]

[発明の効果]

本発明の可逆性多色記録媒体によれば、液長選択した非外線を照射することにより、所望 の記録解を選択的に発動せしめ、可逆的な発色状態と消色状態との変換を行うことができ 、明確な画像表示が得られた。また、雑り返して情報の記録、および消去を行った場合に おいても、初期と随等の画質が得られた。

[0112]

また、本発明方法によれば、長波長に吸収のある光ー熱変換材料を含有した記録層から順 に、支持基模上に積縮させることにより色かぶりの無い高品質の調像を記録することがで 10 きた。

【製面の簡単な説明】

【割1】本発明の可逆性多色記録媒体の一例の機路断面図を示す。

【図2】シアニン系色素の吸取スペクトルを示す。

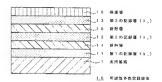
【図3】比較例1で作製された可逆性多色記録製体の概略新面図を示す。

【符号の謝明】

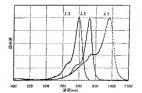
1 ····· 支持基板、2 ····· 支持基板、1 0 ···· 可逆性多色記錄媒体、1 1 ····· 第 1 の記錄階 、1 2 ····· 第 2 の記錄曆、1 3 ····· 第 3 の記錄曆、1 4 , 1 5 ···· 断熱層、1 6 ····· 保護 圖、2 0 ···· 可逆性多色記錄媒体、2 1 ···· 第 1 の記錄曆、2 2 ···· 第 2 の記錄曆、2 3 ····· 第 3 の記錄曆、2 4 . 2 5 ···· 新熱醫。2 6 ···· 保護曆

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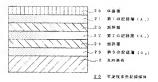
[[1]



[18 2]



[3]



フロントベージの続き

(\$1) Int. Cl. 7 F 1

テーマコード(参考)

B 4 1 M 5/18 T 0 1 C B 4 1 M 5/18 F B 4 1 M 5/18 Q B 4 1 M 5/18 N B 4 1 M 5/18 1 0 3

B41J 3/20 109E

ドターム(参考) 20065 HAO7 HAO8 HBO4 HB14 HB20 JAO9 JB04 JC02 KAO2 KA27

LA05 LA26

20026 AA07 AA09 AA13 AA24 BB01 DD01 DD45 DD46 DD53 FP07

FE11 FF13